for India (RNI) no longer allocates newsprint to newspapers. It only issues Entitlement Certificates for indigenous newsprint and Eligibility Certificate for import of newsprint.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Jury members for National Film Awards

4013. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that three Members of the Jury for the recent 48th National Film Awards resigned in protest against alleged political interference as reported in the Times of India, dated 31st March, 2001;

(b) the details of the events and circumstances leading upto the resignations;

(c) the norms observed while deciding on the selection of the Jury and whether there have been some variations in such norms recently; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Out of the 17 members Jury constituted by the Government for deciding the 48th National Film Awards (Feature Film Category), three members dis-associated themselves at the final stage of the deliberations as they did not agree with the views of the majority of the members. Two out of these three members subsequently sent their resignations from the Jury. However, neither of these members alleged political interference. No communication has been received from the third Jury member.

(c) and (d) The National Film Awards are governed by the Regulations notified vide Public Notice No. 30S10#6-F(F) dated 24.11.1987 as amended from time to time. The Jury for the Feature film category is constituted as per these Regulations from among the persons distinguished in the field of cinema, other allied arts and the humanities.